

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 16 and 21 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A bioadhesive, film-forming composition ~~for application to mammalian skin~~, said composition comprising a homogeneous dispersion of:

a) from about 0.3% to about 10% by weight of the total composition, of a thermoplastic graft copolymer, comprising a hydrophilic polymer main chain including hydrophilic acidic monomeric units and optionally hydrophilic neutral monomeric units, and a hydrophobic polymeric side chain comprising polystyrene, said graft copolymer being a reaction product of:

(1) a polystyrene macromonomer having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group, and

(2) at least one hydrophilic acidic monomer having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group, and

(3) optionally said hydrophilic neutral monomers having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group;

wherein the weight percent of the polystyrene macromonomer in the graft copolymer is between about 1 and about 20%, and the weight percent of the sum total of all the hydrophilic monomer monomers in the graft copolymer is

between 80 and 99%, wherein at least about 10% of said total hydrophilic monomer monomers is being acidic, the remainder of the hydrophilic monomers being neutral, said graft copolymer when fully hydrated having an equilibrium water content of at least 90%;

in

b) one or more hydrophilic, water based carriers selected from the group consisting of a gel, solution, emulsion, dispersion, lotion, cream, petrolatum and a wax-based preparation;

wherein the composition is in the form of a homogeneous and stable gel dispersion;

whereby said composition forms a hydrophilic but water insoluble bioadherent polymeric film upon application to the skin.

2. (Previously Amended) The film-forming composition of Claim 1, wherein said composition comprises from about 0.3 to about 5% by weight of the graft copolymer.

3. (Previously Amended) The composition of Claim 1, comprising from about 0.3% copolymer to about 3% copolymer.

4. - 5. (Canceled) .

6. (Original) The film-forming composition of Claim 1,
further comprising a biologically active agent.

7. (Canceled) .

8. (Original) A method of treatment of mammalian skin
comprising applying to the said skin, an effective amount of
a composition of Claim 1.

9. (Withdrawn) A skin moisturizer comprising the
aqueous formulation of Claim 1.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the
method of applying the composition is selected from the
group consisting of a spray, a roll-on, immersion, dipping,
applying by brush, or spattering.

11. (Canceled) .

12. (Withdrawn) A foam stabilizer, comprising the
composition of Claim 1.

13. (Withdrawn) A detergent comprising the foam stabilizer of Claim 12.

14. (Withdrawn) A shampoo comprising the foam stabilizer of Claim 12.

15. (Withdrawn) A hair conditioner comprising the composition of Claim 1.

16. (Currently Amended) A biologically active, bioadhesive, film-forming composition comprising a homogeneous dispersion of:

a) from about 0.3% to about 10% by weight of the total composition, of a thermoplastic graft copolymer, comprising a hydrophilic polymer main chain including hydrophilic acidic monomeric units and optionally hydrophilic neutral monomeric units, and a hydrophobic polymeric side chain comprising polystyrene, said graft copolymer being a reaction product of:

(1) a polystyrene macromonomer having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group, and

(2) at least one hydrophilic acidic monomer having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group, and

(3) optionally said hydrophilic neutral monomers having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group;

wherein the weight percent of the polystyrene macromonomer in the graft copolymer is between about 1 and about 20%, and the weight percent of the sum total of all the hydrophilic monomer monomers in the graft copolymer is between 80 and 99%, wherein at least about 10% of said total hydrophilic monomer monomers is being acidic, the remainder of the hydrophilic monomers being neutral, said graft copolymer when fully hydrated having an equilibrium water content of at least 90%; and

b) an effective amount of the biologically active agent;

in

c) one or more hydrophilic-water based carriers selected from the group consisting of a gel, solution, emulsion, dispersion, lotion, cream, petrolatum and a wax-based preparation;

wherein the composition is in the form of a homogeneous and stable gel dispersion;

whereby said composition forms a hydrophilic but water insoluble bio-adherent polymeric film upon application to the skin.

17. (Cancelled) .

18. (Original) A face make up, comprising the composition of Claim 1.

19. (Withdrawn) A lipstick comprising the composition of Claim 1.

20. (Withdrawn) A mascara comprising the composition of Claim 1.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment of mammalian skin with a bio-adhesive, film-forming composition said method comprising the steps of:

(a) forming a composition comprising:

(1) from about 0.3% to about 10% by weight of the total composition, of a thermoplastic graft copolymer, comprising a hydrophilic polymer main chain including hydrophilic acidic monomeric units and optionally hydrophilic neutral monomeric units, and a hydrophobic polymeric side chain comprising polystyrene, said graft copolymer being a reaction product of:

(i) a polystyrene macromonomer having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group, and

(ii) at least one hydrophilic acidic monomer having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group, and

(iii) optionally said hydrophilic neutral monomers having an ethylenically unsaturated functional group;

wherein the weight percent of the polystyrene macromonomer in the graft copolymer is between about 1 and about 20%, and the weight percent of the sum total of all the hydrophilic monomer monomers in the graft copolymer is between 80 and 99%, wherein at least about 10% of said total hydrophilic monomer monomers is being acidic, the remainder of the hydrophilic monomers being neutral, said graft copolymer when fully hydrated having an equilibrium water content of at least 90%;

(2) one or more hydrophilic water based carriers selected from the group consisting of a gel, solution, emulsion, dispersion, lotion, cream, petrolatum and a wax-based preparation;

(b) homogenizing the composition until it forms a homogeneous and stable dispersion; and

(c) applying the homogeneous dispersion to the skin;
whereby said homogeneous dispersion forms a hydrophilic but water insoluble bio-adherent polymeric film.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein said composition, prior to homogenizing, further comprises a biologically active agent.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of adding a biologically active agent to the homogeneous dispersion.

24. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 6, wherein said biologically active agent, when delivered transdermally, is effective as a drug for local or systemic activity.